

UNCLASSIFIED Department of State

1/20/77
TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-15

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INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 HA-05 10-14 TRSE-00 EB-08 SSO-00
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O 201951Z JUL 79
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1600

BUENOS AIRES 5889

E.O. 12065 GDS 7-20-85 (CHAPLIN, MAXWELL) OR-P
TAGS SHUM, SREF, AR
SUBJECT (U) EVALUATION OF RIGHT OF OPTION STATISTICS

REF: A BRAYSHAW/CHAPLIN TELCON OF 6-19-79 CONCERNING RIGHT
OF OPTION STATISTICS; B STATE 119773; C STATE 141919;
D BUENOS AIRES 5450

1. ENTIRE TEXT)

2. THE FOLLOWING STATISTICS CONCERNING THE ARGENTINE RIGHT
OF OPTION PROGRAM HAVE BEEN PRESENTED TO THE EMBASSY BY
VARIOUS GOA SOURCES:

STATISTICS PRESENTED TO UNDER SECRETARY SOLOMON BY ARGENTINE
MINISTER OF ECONOMY MARTINEZ DE HOZ (REFTEL STATE 141919)

RIGHT OF OPTION GRANTED BEFORE MARCH 24, 1976	585
RIGHT OF OPTIONS GRANTED AFTER MARCH 24, 1976	165
TOTAL RIGHTS OF OPTIONS GRANTED	650
NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS EXPLLED BEFORE MARCH 24, 1976	18
NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS EXPELLED AFTER MARCH 24, 1976	189
TOTAL NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS EXPELLED	197

STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY IN
WASHINGTON ON APRIL 30, 1979 (REFTEL STATE 119773)

RIGHT OF OPTION GRANTED AS OF DECEMBER, 1978 (NO STARTING DATE GIVEN.)	213
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STATISTICS GIVEN TO STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS BY
COLONEL CARLOS CERDA (REFTEL STATE 119773)

RIGHT OF OPTIONS GRANTED (NO DATES GIVEN.)	640
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STATISTICS RELEASED BY ARGENTINE MINISTER OF INTERIOR
MARGUINDEGUY DURING PRESS CONFERENCE ON JUNE 29, 1979
(REFTEL BUENOS AIRES 5450)

RIGHT OF OPTIONS GRANTED BETWEEN NOVEMBER 4, 1974 AND MARCH 24, 1976	378
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RIGHT OF OPTIONS GRANTED BETWEEN OCTOBER 27, 1976 AND SEPTEMBER 27, 1977 (THERE WAS NO OPTION PROGRAM FROM MARCH 24, 1976 TO OCTOBER 27, 1976)	169
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RIGHT OF OPTIONS GRANTED BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 27, 1977 AND JUNE 28, 1979	166
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TOTAL NUMBER OF OPTIONS GRANTED	713
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NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS EXPELLED BETWEEN NOV 11, 1974 AND JUNE 28, 1979	192
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3. WE ASSUME THAT ALL FIGURES HAVING TO DO WITH RIGHT
OF OPTION ORIGINATE AT THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR -- AND
THAT MARTINEZ DE HOZ, CERDA OR WHOEVER GET THEIR
MATERIAL THROUGH CONTACTS AT INTERIOR. THAT DIFFERENT
DATES OR NO DATES OR DIFFERENT DATA BASES ARE USED DOES
NOT SURPRISE US. SO WHAT IS AUTHORITATIVE?

4. THE EMBASSY, FOR ITS PURPOSES, WILL RELY ON THE
MARGUINDEGUY STATISTICS RELEASED AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE
ON JUNE 29 (BUENOS AIRES 5450) AT "AUTHORITATIVE". HE
IS THE SOURCE (NOT CERDA NOR MARTINEZ DE HOZ, NOR
THE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON) AND HE APPARENTLY TOOK
PAINS TO DO SOME TABULATIONS -- HOWEVER INADEQUATE
OR PUZZLING MAY HAVE BEEN HIS PRESENTATION.

5. SO DO WE BELIEVE THE MARGUINDEGUY RIGHT OF OPTION

STATISTICS? THERE IS NO WAY WE KNOW OF LOOKING BACK
PRIOR TO MARCH 24, 1976 TO CONFIRM THAT THERE WERE
378 PERSONS LET GO UNDER RIGHT OF OPTION, AND THE
PERIOD OCTOBER 27 1976 TO SEPTEMBER 27, 1977 --
DURING WHICH MARGUINDEGUY SAYS 169 PEOPLE WERE
"OPTIONED" -- IS EQUALLY MURKY. FRANKLY WE DOUBT
THESE STATISTICS -- BUT WE CANNOT CHALLENGE THEM
PUBLICLY (OR PRIVATELY) FOR WE LACK DATA OF OUR OWN
AND THE RESULTS OF ANY CHALLENGE WOULD BE NOTHING
BUT A SHOUTING MATCH.

6. THE FIGURE THAT CAN STAND ANALYSIS IS THAT USED
FOR THE PERIOD BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 27, 1977 AND JUNE 28, 1979 ---
166 IN NUMBER. THIS DOES IN FACT ACCOR WITH OUR
RECORDS, WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED FROM OTHER EMBASSIES
AND OUR OWN SENSE OF THE LIKELY.
CASTRO

Handwritten signature: J. Argentina

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

Handwritten calculations:
169
166
335

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